

Fuel for Thought

December 2004

The 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland, Ore.

Vol. 2, Issue 12

Jumper: AEF has been successful

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

11/19/2004 - **WASHINGTON** — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper told House Armed Services Committee members that while reconstitution of air expeditionary forces is not moving as quickly as expected, the concept is battle-proven.

The Air Force's highest-ranking uniformed member testified before the House of Representatives on Nov. 17 on the current state of the service.

"Last February, when I sat in front of this committee, we talked about the reconstitution of our air expeditionary forces and the fact that we were in the midst of experimenting to see if the AEF concept actually worked," General Jumper told more than 30 legislators. "I can report our ability to pull eight of our 10 AEFs forward to engage in major combat operations, and then reset those, has been a success."

General Jumper also explained to legislators how the Air Force recently increased the AEF deployment length.

"We have (extended) our deployment time from 90 to 120 days," he said. "We have about 80 percent of our force on 120-day rotation. About 20 percent of the high-demand forces are on rotations (lasting) up to one year."

The general told committee members that while visiting deployed Airmen and troops of their sister services, he picked up on a common theme.

"I have been to Iraq and visited the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines over there," General Jumper said. "The singular message

I bring back from them is 'let's not quit until we are done.' They believe that. They are dedicated to the mission they are engaged in over there and want to see it through."

Committee members asked about retention and recruiting numbers. General Jumper said the Air Force has been very successful.

"We are enjoying excellent results in our recruiting and retention," General Jumper said. "As a matter of fact, one of the problems is that our end strength is more than it should be. We will spend the next year working down to our authorized end strength of 360,000."

Efforts to reduce the total Air Force to the authorized end strength are part of the service's force-shaping initiative. Force shaping includes reduction through retirement or separation, but it also involves moving Airmen from

career fields with overages into career fields with shortages. Air Force officials have been quick to say that while they work to pare down membership, they will keep in mind the desires of those affected.

"In order to keep from breaking faith with those who want to stay in the Air Force, we are going to take most of this from our initial recruiting," General Jumper said. "We have a plan to do that; I think it is going to work. I don't want to kick out any Airmen who want to stay. They have shown us great loyalty, and I want to return that loyalty to them."

Finally, General Jumper commented on the departure of Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. Secretary Roche announced his resignation Nov. 16.

"I must say I am very proud to have served with Dr. Roche during his tenure," General Jumper said. "I have never seen anyone who cared more about the nation's Airmen than Dr. Roche."



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Chief's Corner

Perspective

by CMSgt Scott T. Smith

I thought long and hard about what I would write for my first essay for the Chief's Corner and what came to mind was perspective. So often it's easy to assume that things will get done no matter what, and we often lose perspective on how many important things it takes to accomplish our very important mission.

Perspective means knowing that it takes more than just people in an airplane pumping gas, to actually accomplish a mission. It takes someone to pay, feed, supply, maintain and support those people.

Without each and every integral part of the organization, the mission can never truly be successful.

Perspective also means thinking about and truly appreciating what our families and loved ones endure for the sake of the mission. Tucking your baby in bed at night or reading a bed time story, missed birthdays, anniversaries, school plays and a thousand other things that are so

important but often overlooked in pursuit of excellence in all we do.



Keeping a clear perspective on whom and what it takes to actually be free and successful has never been more important than today in our ever changing world.

As the holiday season approaches I can't help but think about the thousands of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines deployed to every corner of the

world and accomplishing the most important of missions, some of whom will pay the ultimate sacrifice in defending our country. Keeping that sacrifice in mind and how precious a commodity it is, is probably the most important thing we can do to ensure that we maintain our perspective.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the men and women of the 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland, Ore. Contents of Fuel for Thought are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of the 939th Air Refueling Wing (AFRC), Portland IAP, Portland, Ore. Photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise noted. Submissions are appreciated. The mail address is: 939 ARW/PA, (Attn: Fuel for Thought), 6801 NE Cornfoot Road, Portland IAP, Portland, OR., 97218-2797.

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939 ARW Commander

Col. William Flanigan

Chief of Public Affairs

Maj. Karen Magnus

Public Affairs Specialist/Editor/Admin

Vacant

Congratulations

Civilian

Welcome

Seifert, Dennis C.	939 MXS/MXMG
Stine, Aron	304 RQS/DO
Lovejoy, Annette K.	939 MSS/DPF

Awards







Feagle, Cindy	Recruiting Squadron
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Military

Welcome

SrA Avenetti, Nicholas A. III	83 APS
SrA Cabrera, James T.	939 OSF
A1C Cannon, Gloria G.	939 CES
SSgt Conrad, Jamie R.	939 ARW
TSgt Cruse, Cornell I.	83 APS
SrA Davis, Tracy E.	83 APS
SrA Godbout, William L.	939 MSS
SSgt Grun, Franklin H.	304 RQS
SrA Harrington, Thomas J.	304 RQS
TSgt Lee, Jason E.	64 ARS
A1C Lister, Jennifer J.	939 OSF
A1C Mahnke, Joshua H.	939 CES
A1C Montgomery, Leslie	83 APS
SSgt Parrish, Robert W.	939 MSS
SrA Peregoy, Jamie J.	64 ARS

Promotions

To CMSgt Scott T. Smith		939 OG
To SMSgt Michael G. Knowles		939 ARW
To MSgt Scott W. Anderson Antonello Burke Michael D. Cristler Quentin L. Graham		939 MSS 939 MSG 939 CES 939 CES
To TSgt Robert E. Emmons Kent M. Haaland Frank R. Smith Aaron J. Warner		939 AMXS 939 MSS 939 SVF 939 MDS
To SSgt Donald W. Marchel Nathan D. Minich Amy L. Schmid Vicky J. Vigil		83 APS 939 AMXS 939 SVF 939 CES
To SrA Christel J. Liebhaber Jennifer J. Lister Brian A. Rottweiler Trisha M.A. Sherry		83 APS 939 OSF 939 MDS 939 MDS

Awards

Air Force Achievement Medal SSgt Christy A. Filer		939 MDS
Air Force Commendation Medal MSgt Bruce W. Pritchett TSgt Sean E. Knight TSgt Roger E. Smith Maj Tracy D. Smith		939 CES 83 APS 939 AMXS 939 MSS
Meritorious Service Medal Maj Malinda W. Beggs Maj Constance L. Jenkins		939 CF 83 APS



Above left SMSgt Karen Carter 939 MSS/DPMSA-E, is presented the Air Force Commendation Medal by Major Eric Schadler, 939 CES/CC, during a ceremony over the November UTA. Above right SMSgt Dale "Wes" Dorszynski, 939 CES/CE, is presented the Air Force Achievement Medal by Major Eric Schadler during the same ceremony. Left TSgt Aaron Sauer, 939 CES/CEMET, was also presented with the Air Force Achievement Medal.

Right, newly promoted SMSgt Michael G. Knowles, 939 ARW/FMFPT, has his stripes "tacked on" by Chief Michael Steinbach, 939 ARW/FMA, and Capt Duane Hinkle, 939 ARW/FMP. SMSgt Knowles was also presented with the Joint Service Achievement Medal during the same ceremony over the November UTA.



Left, Scott Smith, 939 OG/OGV is all smiles when his wife, Darla, and Chief Douglas "Andy" Anderson, 64 ARS/DOB, present him with his new chevrons as the newest Chief to join the 939th. During the same ceremony Chief Smith was also presented with the traditional jeep to carry and care for over the next two months.



Left, Kent Haaland, 939 MSS/DPMSC-CE, gets his new TSgt chevrons tacked on by Chief Cathy Sevier, 939 MSS/DPMS, and Capt Sher Gardner, 939 MSS/CC during a ceremony over the November UTA.

Right, Antonello Burke, 939 MSG/CCCA, is presented with his MSgt chevrons by Col Rick Gano, 939 MSG/CC and Lt Col Elaine Barron, 939 MSG/CV during a presentation on the November UTA.



Left, Scott Anderson, 939 MSS/DPMSC-CA, receives his new chevrons from MSgt Mark Schackart, 939 MSS/CCF, and Capt Sher Gardner, 939 MSS/CC, for his promotion to MSgt during a ceremony over the November UTA.

Right, Carl Nixon, recruiter, is surprised to discover that he was called in not for a problem with a recruit, but to be presented with his stripes for his promotion to TSgt. Presenting his stripes were SMSgt Greg Pliler, senior recruiter, and Col William Flanigan, wing commander.





The last of the Army security forces members that had been activated to support the Portland base were deactivated the week of Nov. 8, and were presented certificates of appreciation from the 939th Air Refueling Wing during a presentation from Col William Flanigan, wing commander.



Above and right, all members who helped prepare for Gen Handy's visit were presented with coins from the four-star general along with thank you notes from Col Flanigan for their hard work making a successful visit. Pictured above: Maj David Jeske, Lt Col Dana Difford, MSgt Rocky Hart, MSgt Stacey Sweat, SMSgt Steve Weer, SMSgt Mark Jaques and Col William Flanigan. Pictured right are Col William Flanigan and Maj Matt O'Donnell.





Above, MSgt Joel Wheeler, 939 CES/CEX conducts Chemical Warfare training during an exercise that included the Operations Group, Maintenance Group, Mission Support Group, and Wing Staff offices, etc.



Left, MSgt Jon Swails and Terry Diemer, 304th Rescue Squadron, showed their support for the Combined Federal Campaign at the annual pancake breakfast that helped raise funds towards this year's goal.

Below, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve brought out more than 40 employers from the local area to learn about the Reserve. They toured Life Support and the Pararescue organization before going on a refueling mission. As a result of their experience these employers donated funds to the wing fund to help Reservists in need.



Re-enlistments



Left, Major Barbara Dobroth, 939 MXS/CC re-enlists MSgt Bob Schuessler, 939 MXS/MXMT.

Right, Major Jason Stewart, 64 ARS/DOP, re-enlists MSgt David "Buzz" West, 64 ARS/DOLS.



Left, Major Brett Duax, 939 MOF/CC gives Chief Douglas Gildroy, 939 MOF/MXO, his final re-enlistment oath.

Right, SMSgt Michael Green, 939 AMXS/MXAAA, shakes hands with Major Kirk Peddicord, 939 AMXS/CC, after re-enlisting.



Left, Major David Jeske, 939 LRS/CC congratulates SSgt Dan Nielsen, 939 LRS/LGRVO, on his re-enlistment.

Farewells



Col Rick Gano, 939 MSG/CC, retired during a ceremony over the November UTA. Col William Flanigan, wing commander, presented Col Gano with his Legion of Merit Medal and certificate of retirement. Col Gano's wife and family were on hand for the ceremony which included a reception afterwards.



Garth Pelton, Intelligence Specialist, retired after 19 years of civil service with the 939th Air Refueling Wing. He had retired militarily in November 2002.



Dave Craig has transferred from the 939th Air Refueling Wing to the 919th Special Operations Wing at Duke Field, Florida.



Col Robert Ferek assumed command of the 939th Medical Squadron in a ceremony held during the November UTA.

Updated Utility Uniform

by Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski

Air Force News
November 02, 2004

WASHINGTON - Responding to Airmen's feedback, Air Force leaders unveiled an alternative utility uniform color scheme and pattern Nov. 2 as part of the ongoing wear-test that was announced in August 2003.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray are now wearing the latest test version of the utility uniform during visits to Airmen serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The most striking change in this version is the switch from a deep blue, gray and green color scheme to a more subdued mix of tan, blue and two shades of green. And the tiger-stripe pattern is now pixilated.

This test version includes design changes incorporated in September based on feedback from Airmen.

More than 700 people at 32 installations are wear-testing the first test uniform. These Airmen participated in scientific surveys and focus groups. Their feedback was instrumental in making these most recent adjustments.

The original plan called for only 300 testers, but uniform board officials decided to increase the number of testers to get more exposure and collect more test data. A select group will test the newest version.

Data showed that a service-unique appearance was very important to Airmen.

"Ninety-one percent of the Airmen responded in favor of a distinctive Air Force utility uniform," Chief Murray said. "Airmen take great pride in serving in America's Air Force. Having a distinct uniform that presents a professional appearance to the public and our sister services, when we are at home station or deployed, is important." A unique Air Force-designed uniform has another big advantage.

"Our new utility uniform incorporates a unique fit tailored for men and women, and a variety of realistic sizes beyond just small, medium and large," the chief said.

"More than 20 percent of our Airmen are women, and we continually received feedback on how the male uniforms they currently wear do not fit well.

Fit and comfort are important for all Airmen to project a professional military image."

Officials said they are reaping additional benefits of this particular uniform wear-test process.

Air Force Clothing Office officials took detailed measurements of as many body types as possible and recorded them into a database for future uniform design studies. Since the last such measurement in the 1960s, officials discovered that the average Airmen now has a more athletic build.

Not only are Airmen more fit to fight; they are deployed more often and for longer periods than ever before.

There is no time to fuss over finicky uniforms, officials said.

"The wash and wear uniform will be easier and cheaper to maintain," said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean, uniform board superintendent. "The permanent-press treatment eliminates the need for ironing, and home washing can save an Airman from \$180 to \$240 in laundry costs over the course of a year."

Sergeant Dean oversees the wear test and leads the uniform board's campaign to display the uniform as much as possible in a variety of locations.

"The wear test allows Airmen around the world to see the uniform in work places and to give feedback on its appearance, comfort, function and maintenance,"

Sergeant Dean said. "The chief of staff took that feedback into consideration when making the decision to move forward with expanding the test to include the new color and pattern."

Special operations and survival, evasion, resistance and escape Airmen will field-test the new utility uniform's pattern and colors to see how they perform in extreme conditions.

In January 2005, the uniform board will standardize the pattern, material and specifications and deliver the results to the Defense Logistics Agency for production. Normal production to delivery time can take 18 to 24 months.



New Air Force utility uniform

WASHINGTON — The Air Force utility uniform's revised colors include tan, blue and two shades of green in a pixilated tiger-stripe pattern. Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray are wearing the updated utility uniform during visits to Airmen serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski)

Thanks to Spouses

WASHINGTON D.C. - Undersecretary of the Air Force Peter B. Teets hosted a ceremony today at the Pentagon to launch the Spouse Pin program, a new recognition initiative, to thank the spouses of America's Airmen for the sacrifices they are making in support of the ongoing war on terrorism.

The program is expected to honor more than 400,000 spouses of active duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Air Force civilians.

"We're excited about the opportunity to recognize the support a spouse provides to our total force Airmen and civilians at home and abroad. This pin lets the spouse know that we are aware of the sacrifices they've made and continue to make as their loved ones defend our nation's interest in the ongoing war on terrorism," said Brig Gen. Frederick Roggero, director, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs.

The Spouse Pin program is the third phase of the Your Guardians of Freedom program that expands recognition from parents and employers to Total Force spouses. The YGOF program began in October 2001 as an Air National Guard initiative to recognize employers of activated Guardsmen and evolved into the Parent Pin program in May 2003.

Through the web-based program, service members and AF civilians can log on to www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com and register their spouses for a personalized letter signed by the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff with an accompanying one-inch silver lapel pin. The lapel pin is embossed with a blue star above the Air Force logo that's reminiscent of the blue star flags displayed in windows during World War II to symbolize the military service of a loved one.

The Air Force realizes the hardship and sacrifices being made by military and civilian families as the nation continues to wage war on terrorism. The spouse pin serves as a small token of appreciation for their sacrifices.



Patriotic Boss

By Maj Karen Magnus

SMSgt David Watts, Superintendent, 939th Logistics Readiness Squadron, has worked for Ron Berger, CEO of Figaro's Italian Pizza, and a member of the board of directors of the International Franchise Association, since the first day of his Reserve career - literally. Watts' first Reserve weekend (following his separation from active duty in Sept 1987) was 5 October 1987. His first civilian job was with National Video, Inc. as a data entry clerk on 7 Oct 1987. Since that first day, Berger and Watts' other supervisors, have been nothing but supportive of his Air Force Reserve career. Although, at times, Berger may not have completely understood why Watts would give up his weekends and take two weeks a year to deploy with his unit, Berger supported Watts' decision to serve his country as a citizen airman. In fact, this month Watts is deploying for three weeks to S. Korea so his unit can receive some valuable training. Watts says he could not have reached many of his Air Force Reserve goals had it not been for Berger's support. Figaro's support of the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative (VetFran) Scholarship is further proof of Berger's commitment to our men and women in uniform.

The most recent example of this commitment: on Nov 5, 2004, Air Force Captain Victoria Habas, who is currently serving with the 116th Air Control Squadron (GTACS), Portland ANG, Ore., was honored with an educational advancement scholarship established by the International Franchise Association Educational Foundation and Figaro's Italian Pizza, Inc, based in Salem, Ore. The scholarship is awarded to U.S. military veterans enrolled in an entrepreneurial course of study at an accredited college or university.

"Our company and our franchisees believe this is a great way to show support for the American veterans who have served their country by helping them achieve their goals for the future," said Ron Berger, CEO of Figaro's Italian Pizza, and a member of the board of directors of the International Franchise Association. Figaro's Pizza was founded in Salem in 1981. With 97 stores in 18 states, Figaro's is the largest "we-bake or you-bake" pizza franchise.

The International Franchise Association also sponsors the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative (VetFran) which offers incentives to former military personnel to help them shift from military to self-employment. Nearly 150 IFA member companies participate in the effort. The International Franchise Association represents franchised small businesses spanning 75 different industries in more than 100 countries. Overall, more than 18 million jobs, \$506 billion in payroll and more than \$1.15 trillion are generated by franchised businesses in the United States.

SAFETY

by Michael Clarke

Home fire protection....

I had a strange hot plastic smell coming from the vicinity of my laundry room while the dryer was running. Searching the dryer, ("Who would put plastic in a dryer?" I wondered), turned up no obvious culprit. In poking around, I discovered my electrical service panel was warm to the touch. One of the two main electrical lines coming into the house was overheating the panel and had melted the insulation between the wire and the metal box. The electrician who repaired the panel told me we were very close to an electrical fire. I guess if something doesn't seem quite right, it probably isn't.....

S-R

Col Randall Schultz-Rathbun

Inspector General

939 ARW/IG

DSN 638-4094

503 335-4094

Falling through Dock kills Portlander, 53

A 53 year old man died when he fell through a dock in North Portland into the Willamette River, according to the Portland Fire Bureau. The individual was pronounced dead at the scene about 20 minutes after he fell into the water. The individual and three other people were hiking below the University of Portland bluffs and walked out onto a dock at the base of the bluffs. Part of the dock gave way dropping the individual into the water. Two of the men jumped in to try and rescue the fallen victim while the other individual ran to call 9-1-1. According to the Fire Bureau it appeared that he had hit his head during the fall.

Excerpt from the Oregonian 20 November, 2004

No matter what type of sports activity you choose, safety should be a top priority.

Before you enter the playing field, consider the following safety tips on these winter sports.



Skiing

During the ski season, more attention is paid to helmets. Experts agree that wearing helmets isn't a bad idea, however, head injuries account for only 2.6 percent of serious ski injuries. A far more serious problem is knee injuries: About 1 in 3 ski injuries are to the knee. In fact, in 1997, there were about 54 million skier visits to ski areas, and about 135,000 people suffered injuries. To avoid injury to your knee, know how to fall. Keep your arms forward, your skis together and your hands over your skis. Don't use your hands to break a fall, and wait until you've stopped sliding to get up. In addition to knowing how to fall properly, keep these tips in mind:

- If you're a beginner, sign up for a group lesson.
- Make sure your bindings aren't set too tight. You want the skis to release if you fall. Have a ski technician test your skis while you have your boots on, before you leave the ski shop.
- If you feel you're skiing out of control, fall down on your rear end or on your side, the softest parts of your body.
- Stay in shape all year. Stretch before you get on the chairlift.



Snowboarding

Snowboarding has become an increasingly popular sport. In 1997, about 2.5 million people snowboarded - almost double the 1988 total and researchers are learning more about the sports' risks. Most snowboarding injuries result from jumping; and most injuries involve the wrist, forearm, and ankles since snowboarders are inclined to break their falls with their hands. Follow these guidelines to make snowboarding safer:

- Take a lesson before you venture out for the first time.
- If you do fall, wrist guards and kneepads can protect you.
- When you feel tired, take a break.

Cont. from page 12

- Consider a helmet, especially if you're snowboarding in an area that has lots of rocks and trees.
- Stay on groomed trails.
- Don't start jumping until you're experienced and have had proper instruction; jumps are the most common cause of spinal injuries.



Sledding

The most common sledding injuries include fractured arms or legs, the result of sledders tumbling off their sleds. Here are some tips to avoid such mishaps:

- Use a sled that you can steer.
- Do not allow children to go sledding unsupervised. Kids should be at least 6 or 7 years old before they start; preschoolers don't have essential coordination.
- Before your first trip, inspect the hill to make sure it isn't too steep for you.
- Don't hang your arms or legs off the sled.
- As with skiing and snowboarding, wear a helmet.
- Face forward, and don't go down the hill headfirst.
- Check the manufacturer's guidelines on the sled's maximum occupancy. Also, some sleds are age restrictive and only allow those aged 13 and older.

Source: http://www.lifeessentialsbyzee.com/zee/safety/zLifeE_safety_sports_031.html

Regular inspections of equipment and facilities, awareness of your surroundings and risk assessment need to happen at home as it does at where you work. It doesn't take long and it saves lives.

Remember December 7 is Pearl Harbor Day



National World War II Memorial

TESTING TIMES AT THE EDUCATION CENTER blg 370



CLEP and DANTES testing is conducted on Tuesdays at 0800 and 1300 and occasionally on Saturday afternoon of the UTA.

CDC and PME testing is conducted every Thursday at 0800 and 1300 hrs and at 1300 on Friday prior to the main UTA and at 0800 and 1300 on Sunday of the UTA
NOT ON TUESDAYS

AFOQT and ASVAB testing is conducted by appointment on Mondays or Wednesdays but limited to one per month.

Schedule appointments to 5-4596 preferred but walk-ins accepted.

Troops get 3.5 percent raise

by Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

11/29/2004 - **WASHINGTON (AFP)** — Money contained within the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act will fund a 3.5 percent troop pay raise and eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for family housing, the Department of Defense's top military personnel official said.

The January troop pay raise will be applied across the board to all servicemembers and will not feature pay hikes targeted to specific ranks as in past years, said David S. C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

The targeted raises issued to mid-level officers and noncommissioned officers over the past two years, Mr. Chu said, "have fixed," for now, most pay-disparity issues involving those ranks.

And, he said, money is contained in the act to boost allowances that eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket expenses for on- or off-base family housing. Stateside and overseas family-housing allowances are calculated according to regional markets.

Another provision in the act removes a previously established ceiling limiting how much military family-housing inventory could be privatized, Mr. Chu said.

Privatization enables DOD officials to modernize military family housing more quickly and efficiently, Mr. Chu said. About one-third of military families live in on-base housing.

If DOD funded all of its existing family-housing needs by itself, it would take "forever" to make needed repairs or to replace aging housing units largely built in the 1950s, he said.

Mr. Chu named privatization success stories, such as contractor-provided housing for Soldiers and their families at Fort Carson, Colo. Such private sector-provided housing offers contemporary quality and "design flair" for servicemembers while providing more bang for the buck for taxpayers.

The act also contains three special pay and bonus authorizations, Mr. Chu said. For example, the bill makes permanent the increase of military family separation pay to \$250 a month and hostile fire/imminent danger pay to \$225 a month.

The bill also provides "a much stronger set" of re-enlistment bonuses for Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

Mr. Chu said the act ensures that troops in the field receive the equipment and other material they require to successfully prosecute the war on terrorism.

It also provides extended health coverage for some reservists, Chu said, as well as better Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits.

Another change contained in the act enables reservists to be called up for training before possible overseas deployment. This, Mr. Chu said, is a more efficient means of force management.

A major highlight of military personnel management during his tenure, Mr. Chu said involves successive increases in troop compensation.

"The president has been willing to carry the torch for us to argue for significant pay increases," he said, as well as

to reduce and eventually eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for housing.



Forward-deployed active-layered defense

by Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

11/26/2004 - **WASHINGTON (AFPN)** — The Department of Defense's new strategy for helping protect the nation is to have a "forward-deployed active-layered defense," said the man who helped craft the plan.

Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, said his agency "firmly believes" the nation's defense begins overseas. And DOD's homeland-defense strategy aims to "shape the battle space far forward from the United States' homeland."

Mr. McHale spoke at a two-day conference that focused on ways to better protect the nation's infrastructure, such as bridges and power plants.

"We must detect the enemy threat long before it approaches the United States. We must track that threat as it approaches the United States," he said. "If we identify an enemy threat only after it has come ashore, only after it has penetrated our defenses, only after that weapon of mass destruction is located within the United States port or facility, it's too late."

To prevent that from happening, he said department officials now have forward-deployed mission capabilities that did not exist three years ago. Those capabilities include the ability to intercept a commercial aircraft that may be converted to a weapon.

"We train for that mission every day," Mr. McHale said. "We have F-15 [Eagles] and F-16 [Fighting Falcons] in the air conducting combat-air patrols, prepared to intercept any threat in the air domain."

Combat-air patrols are also being flown on a random basis over major metropolitan cities and key facilities and power plants, he said.

"We were not conducting those missions on Sept. 11; we are effectively conducting them today," he said.

Mr. McHale also said changes in maritime security will focus on being able to "identify, intercept and defeat weapons of mass destruction on the high seas." The most "probable course of action" for terrorists to bring the weapons into the United States from overseas would be through the ports system, he said.

"We have to forward deploy our maritime defenses, our surveillance capabilities, our surface combatants with the right kinds of operational capabilities to detect and defeat (the enemy) on the high seas, ideally hundreds of nautical miles from our coasts."

He said the proliferation security initiative gives U.S. Northern Command officials, who are defending the homeland, an important interdiction requirement that will include the area up to 500 nautical miles from the Pacific coast and 1,700 nautical miles off the Atlantic coast.

Mr. McHale said the Navy and Coast Guard signed an agreement to ensure the "complete integration" of maritime forces. "We are in this fight together," he said.

Meanwhile, he said he is surprised the country has not faced a follow-on attack from al-Qaida since Sept. 11, 2001. But, he said, "it is not because the United States has been lucky."

"Luck had nothing to do with it," he said. "If we rely on luck, we (will) be defeated."

Instead, he said, the United States has been proactive in going after the enemy.

"By developing a strategy of forward-deployed and active-layered defense supported by the very best technology that we can commit to that mission, we can be very proactive identifying the enemy threat, whether that threat exists in Afghanistan or off the coast of the United States or within our own cities," he said.

Mr. McHale said sending troops into places like Afghanistan and Iraq has disrupted al-Qaida's ability to plan and deliver follow-on attacks. By removing the Taliban from power and driving them up into the mountains, "we put them in a very difficult position to plan follow-on attacks," he said.



Ask Sergeant Look Sharp

Question of the month...

I recently changed career fields and I am now a qualified to wear the occupational badge. I would like to wear both the old and new occupational badges, which badge would go on top?

Air Force Occupational badges (Optional) if more than one badge is worn, wear badge which reflects current job in the top position.

Reference: AFI36-2903

Chapter 5 Table 5.1
Pg 119 Rule 4

Did you know...?

Aeronautical and chaplain badges are mandatory. All others are optional.

Reference: AFI36-2903

Chapter 2 Figure 2.1 Pg 14 Note 2



Acronym of the month...

AFOSI - Air Force Office of Special Investigations

Reference: AFI36-2903AFRCSup1

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Term of the month...

Semper Vigilans

Motto of the Civil Air Patrol, the United States Air Force Auxiliary, Latin for "Always Vigilant"

Reference: Mil Terms

<<http://www.milterms.com>>

Questions, Comments
Suggestions,

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